

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner required election of one of Species A-F for further prosecution. In response, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species A, including Figures 2 and 3. Further, Figure 4 was included in Species B by the Examiner. **It is submitted that Figure 4 should instead be grouped in Species A, since this figure shows the milk hose of Figures 2 and 3 in a bent configuration.** Support for the above can be found in the figure description corresponding to Figure 4 on page 7 of the specification, and in the third full paragraph on page 8 of the specification. The claims which are believed to read upon elected Species A are Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 17, 19-21, 23, 24, 29-32, 34 and 35.

Further, a new drawing Figure 4a is submitted herewith in order to illustrate the embodiment of the invention discussed in the second full paragraph on page 4 of the specification, and the invention recited in pending Claims 5 and 18. Support for this new drawing can be found in the specification as cited above, and in Claim 5 as originally filed. The specification is amended herein to reflect the addition of this new drawing figure. No new matter has been added to the application. Approval and entry of this new drawing are respectfully requested.

Lastly, it was noted during preparation of the last response that reference "AR" under "Other Documents" on Form PTO-1449 as returned by the Examiner with the Office Action dated August 13, 2003 was not initialed. It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of this reference by initialing the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and returning same to the undersigned with the next written communication.

Since all issues raised by the Examining Attorney in the outstanding Office Action and the previous Office Action have

been addressed, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Liane L. Churney

LLC/jp

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL	Dale H. Thiel	Reg. No. 24 323
& TANIS, P.C.	David G. Boutell	Reg. No. 25 072
2026 Rambling Road	Ronald J. Tanis	Reg. No. 22 724
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1631	Terryence F. Chapman	Reg. No. 32 549
Phone: (269) 381-1156	Mark L. Maki	Reg. No. 36 589
Fax: (269) 381-5465	Liane L. Churney	Reg. No. 40 694
	Brian R. Tumm	Reg. No. 36 328
	Steven R. Thiel	Reg. No. 53 685
	Sidney B. Williams, Jr.	Reg. No. 24 949

Encl: New formal drawing set, containing Figures
1-4, 4a, 5 and 6a-6d
Highlighted copy of Form PTO-1449
Postal Card

136.05/04